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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Hungary

DATE DISTR. 27 October 1952

25X1 SUBJECT

Hungarian Training Regiment at Tapolca

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

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1. The independent Hungarian training regiment, [] is stationed at 25X1 Tapolca and in the military camp of Lesence-Litvánd, six km. southeast of Tapolca. Its organization is not the same as that of regular Hungarian infantry regiments. This unit trains almost exclusively the recruits of older classes who for one reason or another were not trained earlier.
2. University students also were among the trainees during the summer of 1951, and again this summer. They receive theoretical military instruction throughout the school year, but during the summer they must join this regiment for practical training. They must do this for four successive years. If they complete this prolonged training successfully, they are commissioned lieutenants in the reserve. The long training is considered the equivalent of a reserve officers' school course.
3. There are no Soviet officers with the regiment, but it frequently happened last year that a Soviet lieutenant-colonel inspected the regiment, accompanied by Hungarian officers.

4.

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Lieutenant Horváth (fnu), regimental political officer;
First Lieutenant Makó (fnu), battalion commander;
Lieutenant Tóth (fnu), battalion political officer;
Technical Sergeant Keszélice (fnu), battalion political officer;
First Lieutenant Vilmos Bondy, company commander;
Second Lieutenant István Koltay, company commander;
Second Lieutenant A. Pokrovenczky, company commander;
Staff Sergeant Dezső Fűredi, company political officer;
Lieutenant István Lakó, instructor;
Second Lieutenant Tibor Nemedi.

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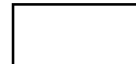
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5. Student training battalion for university members, consists of three rifle companies with an aggregate strength of 350-370 men. Each company consists of three platoons, of four squads each. Only medical and philosophy students who have already had theoretical instruction during the school year are given practical field training here. They wear Soviet uniforms. All are commissioned reserve officers upon completion of training.
6. Anti-tank Company. - This company has a strength of 60-70 men and is equipped with six anti-tank guns of unknown caliber.
7. Heavy Machine Gun Company.- This company has a strength of 60-70 men and is equipped with six Soviet Maxim machine guns.
8. Mortar Company.- This company has a strength of 70-75 men, and is equipped with six mortars.
9. Communications company.- This company has a strength of 70-75 men. The technical equipment is not known.
10. Troops.- The troops are organized in three rifle battalions, of about 360 men each. Each battalion has three companies, of which two are rifle companies and one a heavy machine gun company. The companies in each battalion are numbered 1, 2, and 3. The battalions are numbered similarly.
11. The battalion organization comprises:
 - Battalion commander;
 - Deputy battalion commander;
 - Battalion political officer;
 - Battalion staff, of 10-12 officers and non-commissioned officers.
12. A company organization comprises:
 - Company commander;
 - Deputy company commander, who is also political officer;
 - Company staff;
 - Three platoons, each of four squads. A squad consists of 10 men.

A company has 125-130 men.
13. Rifle companies are equipped with weapons as follows: 90 rifles; 24 Soviet Degtjarev machine pistols, model 40; eight Degtjarev 7.62 mm. machine guns, model 28 (1 and 2 platoons have three guns each, 3 platoon has two); 120 practice hand grenades. The heavy machine gun company has six Maxim machine guns. Each company has a cart with two horses; also four jeeps, four GMC 3.5 ton trucks, and three Wippon army trucks.
14. The training consists of individual basic training; combat training by squads, platoons and companies; map making; chemical warfare defense; firing practice; political instruction. The newest methods of combat training are taught. On attack, the soldiers are not allowed to run, nor to lie on the ground. The enemy in his position must be attacked in quickstep, and a rifle shot fired every three paces. The attack is carried out in a triangular formation. The advance group overruns the enemy line and goes on; the enemy position is mopped up by the second and third groups. The battle slogan is: "For peace and Rakosi! Forward!"
15. A training period must include the following exercises: a battalion practice march with battle equipment over a distance of about 30 km., two company practice marches with battle equipment, for about 30 km. Exercises in regimental strength have not been carried out up to the present.

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16. The food is poor. For breakfast, a thin coffee or soup; for lunch, soup and vegetables or dough-cakes; supper, coffee and bread. The recruits get meat four or five times in two months. The officers and non-commissioned officers are adequately provided for in their clubs.
17. Recruits are paid three times a month, at the rate of two forints a day. Subscription to the military newspaper is obligatory. A company political officer gets 1,200 forints a month.
18. The morale of the recruits is low. The officers and the regime represented by them are genuinely hated. In order to preserve an appearance of discipline, the officers have to resort to terroristic measures. Only three or four percent of the men can be considered actual Communists. The officers, without exception, are Party members, but without much conviction. Like the recruits, they are continually checked and observed by the political officers, and are also controlled separately by the Party organization. Fraternization between the officers and soldiers is forbidden. The officers are changed frequently, so that no real friendly relations can grow up among them.
- 25X1 19. There is a Hungarian Army camp in the forest near Lesence-István and in which an infantry regiment is quartered. Whether the regiment is always the same one could not be determined. [redacted] a regiment of Győr was stationed there last year. These troops have no connection with the training regiment.
20. Hungarian artillery and infantry troops of unknown strength are stationed at the infantry barracks in Tapolca.
- 25X1 21. [redacted] about 40-45 single-engined planes constantly at the Tapolca airfield. Members of the camp said that they were ATA planes equipped with Hungarian engines

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